



WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

DAVE HANSEN

SENATOR – 30TH DISTRICT

ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

**TESTIMONY: SENATE BILL 597
SENATE TRANSPORTATION, TOURISM, FORESTRY,
and NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
4/1/10**

Thank you, Chairman Holperin and members of the committee, for the opportunity to testify today in support of Senate Bill 597.

In simple terms SB-597 would make changes to what would constitute an appropriate use of a grant that was provided to the Town of Pound in the 2007-09 budget to help the town reduce emergency response times that had increased due to the expansion of U.S. Highway 141 from 2-4 lanes.

The highway expansion cut off a number of roads and eliminated a number of at grade intersections that had previously existed when the highway was only 2 lanes.

The grant was to be used specifically for the extension of 19th Road to West 16th Road.

At the time that the grant was approved the Town had been negotiating with a landowner who supported the project and who was willing to supply the town with the land needed for it.

Since the Town received the grant, however, the landowner fell ill and town officials felt it was not in the best interests of the family or the town to continue pursuing an agreement with the landowner. Around that time other family members expressed their opposition to providing any land for the project.

This bill would allow the grant to be used for a local road project of the Town's choosing. Adopting this bill would give the Town time to review their options and to find another way to reduce the response time of their emergency vehicles as well as help keep some people working.

Thank you.

Committees

Joint Committee on Finance, Senate Vice Chair
Education
Transportation, Tourism, Forestry and Natural Resources
Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations
Senate Organization
Joint Committee on Legislative Organization

State Capitol

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